


ROCHELLE PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTIVE		
SUBJECT: Bias Crime Reporting / Investigating	NUMBER: 2020-0005	
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2020	DISTRIBUTION TO: All Sworn Personnel	ISSUED BY: D/Lt. James DePreta
CANCELLATION DATE:		APPROVED BY: Chief Dean M. Pinto

Purpose: To properly identify, investigate, and report all Bias Incidents occurring within the confines of the Township of Rochelle Park. Ensure that victims and other concerned parties are afforded all the rights and protections provided under the New Jersey Constitutional Amendment for Victim’s Rights and the Crime Victim’s Bill of Rights.

Definition: A bias incident or hate crime is defined in the Attorney General’s Guidelines as any suspected or confirmed offense or unlawful act which occurs against a person or property (public or private) on the basis of New Jersey’s nine protected classes: **race, color, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and national origin.**

Policy: It shall be the policy of all Rochelle Park Police Officers to bring the investigative and enforcement elements of the law enforcement community into quick action following any and all suspected or confirmed bias incidents. There shall be special emphasis placed on victim trauma and community tension or fear.

Procedure:

- A. Patrol response to bias report.
 1. Allow victim to describe entire incident.
 2. Determine if motivation behind incident is solely based on bias.
 3. Identify if bias falls under one of the (9) protected classes (**race, color, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and national origin**)
- B. Immediately contact Bias Crime Officer (currently Lt. DePreta)
 1. Bias Crime Officer contacted if bias is the motivating factor.
 2. Determine whether event is a Bias Incident or Bias Crime
 3. Bias Crime: N.J.S.A. 2C:16-1 (Bias Intimidation), predicated offenses include Chapters 11-18, and Ch. 39-3,4, or 5.

C. Bias Incident established.

1. CAD entry Final Call Type selected as "Bias Incident".
2. Tour Commander must report incident within 24 hours through the e-UCR system.
3. Utilize Tour Commander computer to access BCPO Intranet.
4. Select Bias Crime tab.
5. Select Report Instructions.
6. You will be directed to the NIBRS screen.
7. Complete Supplementary Bias Incident Offense Report (within 24 hours of initial report)

D. Bias Crime established.

1. Contact detective bureau, assign Final Call Type "Bias Crime".
2. Assist in complete criminal investigation.
3. If crime involves homicide, agg. Sex assault, arson, LEO is perpetrator, a hate group is involved, or the potential for large scale unrest exists, **IMMEDIATELY** notify BCPO Bias Crimes Unit

Refer victim/witness to appropriate Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy (www.njvictims.org).